

pass into the skin to supply the area over which the herpetic eruption was distributed. In two of the writers' cases hemorrhage and inflammation occurred not only in the ganglion but in the peripheral nerve in connection with it. Acute degeneration of the root fibres in the posterior columns of the cord also occurred, appearing probably about the ninth or tenth day after the eruption. The products of degeneration in the cord are cleared away more slowly than in the ganglion and nerve trunks, leaving no perceptible sclerosis, probably owing to the small number of fibres destroyed.

When the eruption extended on the arm the degenerated fibre could be traced from the root zone to the postero-external column, and along this to the nucleus cuneatus; when on the leg the field of degeneration passed into the postero-internal column, and one-half the field finally lay against the posterior median septum. When, on the other hand, the lesion involved a ganglion of the dorsal region, between the third and the eleventh dorsal, this secondary degeneration in the cord ascended a much shorter distance, the degenerated fibres occupying the root zone adjacent to the posterior horn, and diminishing in number and coming more towards the periphery of the cord before they entirely disappeared. In zoster of the trigeminal similar lesions were found in the gasserian ganglion, and secondarily in its sensory root, both in its extra and intramedullary course.

Zoster may also be due to the implication of the ganglia in inflammatory processes secondary to malignant disease, tubercle, or trauma. In locomotor ataxia outbreaks of zoster form a classical symptom, but more uncommon than is usually supposed. In such cases it is probable that the zoster is not the direct outcome of the disease of the nervous system, but that endarteritis obliterans and the changes it produces in the whole nervous system predisposes the ganglion to attack by the same unknown agent that produces zoster in otherwise healthy persons. In three cases the eruption occurred in general paralysis.

Bacteriological examination of the contents of the vesicles and of the correlated inflamed lymphatic glands proved them to be sterile.

In discussing herpes zoster as an acute specific disease of the nervous system, the writers indicate the similarity in the patho-